

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2006

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, due to travel delays, I was unable to vote during the following rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Rollcall No. 394, "Yes"; rollcall No. 395, "Yes"; rollcall No. 396, "Yes."

HONORING TIM FRIEDMAN

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 24, 2006

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to join my colleagues in paying tribute to Tim Friedman on the occasion of his retirement from the House after 30 years of faithful service. Tim is a native of Lackawanna, NY, a suburb of Buffalo. He arrived in Washington in 1976 and started his career in the House of Representatives on July 19, 1976 under the patronage of the Hon. Dan Rostenkowski.

He worked as a Doorkeeper under the Hon. James T. Molloy from 1976 to 1982. In 1982 he transferred to the office of the House Sergeant at Arms. Tim was appointed as Assistant Manager of the House Democratic Cloakroom in 1985 by the Hon. Thomas P. O'Neill, Speaker of the House.

Tim married Colleen Early in 2003. They are avid golfers and are building a home in Wallace, NC. I hope they have a splendid retirement in Down East, NC.

HONORING TIM FRIEDMAN

SPEECH OF

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 24, 2006

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Tim Friedman, a great friend a great public servant. Next month, Tim will officially retire from the House of Representatives following 30 years of outstanding public service.

Tim grew up in Lackawanna, New York, and came to Washington, DC in 1976. That year, he began his distinguished career with the U.S. House of Representatives under the former Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, Dan Rostenkowski. Tim served as a Doorkeeper in the Democratic Cloakroom for the Honorable James T. Molloy from 1976 until 1982, when he began working for the Honorable Jack Russ. In 1985, Speaker Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill appointed Tim as the Assistant Manager of the House Democratic Cloakroom.

In 2003, Tim married his wife, Colleen Early. Tim and Colleen are dedicated golfers and are building a home in Wallace, North Carolina.

Mr. Speaker, it is a little-known fact outside of Washington that the Democratic and Republican Cloakrooms are vital to Congress' functioning. Dealing with Members of Con-

gress on a daily basis is not an easy task, but Tim has kept our members running on schedule, kept us fed, and kept us smiling for years now, and he will be sorely missed.

I am grateful to Tim for his tremendous service to the House of Representatives, and I wish Tim and Colleen the best of luck in his well-deserved retirement.

TRIBUTE TO GAYLA GRAHAM
HEGGMAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2006

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the life of a wonderful lady, Gayla Graham Heggman, who passed away June 27, 2006, in a tragic car accident.

An accomplished businesswoman, Gayla was a tremendous asset to Alabama and was adored by many friends and family members. Among other things, Gayla co-owned C&G Boat Works and Graham Gulf Incorporated with her brother Janson Graham. The two, along with their mother, also owned Silver King, a 142-acre golf club. Their businesses spanned across much of lower Alabama achieving not only financial success for the family but providing several contributions to the entire area.

To all who loved her, Gayla was a trusted friend and confidant. Moreover, few things were more important to her than her family and friends. Not surprisingly, Gayla garnered a tremendous amount of respect throughout the southern Alabama community.

Gayla is survived by her mother, Sybil Graham-Radford, her stepfather, Harry Radford, and her brother, Janson. In addition, countless friends, business acquaintances, and fellow community members mourn her passing. Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join with me in recognizing the many achievements of Gayla's life.

BOOK ON INDIAN FREEDOM
STRUGGLE HONORED**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I was interested to note that the London Institute of South Asia recently held an event to honor Professor Gurtej Singh for his interesting book *Tandev* of the Centaur. It expounds the theory that the Indian freedom movement was an act of collaboration with the colonialists.

As Professor Gurtej Singh says "As a part of my narration [for the book], I found myself suggesting a theory indicating the spurious nature of India's struggle for freedom. I am aware that it renders the main activities of the Congress Party and its leaders to an exercise in collaboration. But I am in good company in coming to that conclusion. Michael Edwards, in his *The Myth of the Mahatma*, has clearly shown that the British really feared the 'Western style revolutionaries' whom Gandhi effectively neutralized. The Administration considered Gandhi as an ally of the British as a neutralizer of rebellion."

Professor Gurtej Singh has written previously about the false nature of Indian secularism. His book, *Chakravatyuh: Web of Indian Secularism*, exposes the truth that behind its mask of secularism, India is a repressive, theocratic state where minority rights are not respected.

Mr. Speaker, this is unacceptable. We must take strong action to protect the freedom that is the birthright of all people. Self-determination is the essence of democracy. That is why we should put the Congress on record in support of self-determination for the Sikhs of Punjab, Khalistan, the Muslim people of Kashmir, the Christians of Nagalim, and all the peoples of South Asia. We should also stop our aid and trade with India until basic human rights are respected. India is not a friendly country and it has a long record of anti-American activity. Now it wants to be our partner in fighting terrorism, while it practices terrorism and tyranny against its own people. America should not stand for that.

SEMINAR AND LISA BOOK AWARD—2006

LONDON, June 26, 2006.—London Institute of South Asia (LISA) Seminar on the subject of Separate Electorate was held in London on June, 24, 2006 with Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, President Council of Khalistan, in the chair. Separate Electorate was introduced by the British in India in 1905 to give fair representation to all of India's many faiths and castes. Separate Electoral rolls for them provided for effective local government for decades. However, when the same was proposed under the Communal Award in 1932 for state assemblies, the high castes—who constituted only 15 per cent of India's population—saw their dominant position threatened. The Congress party started a campaign against the proposal alleging that the British were playing a game of "divide and rule". The Muslims under the leadership of Mr. Jinnah accepted "Separate Electorate" but Mr. Gandhi was able to persuade the leader of the Untouchables, Dr. Ambedkar, by starting a "fast unto death", to reject the British offer. By a deal signed with the Congress Party (Poona Pact of 1932) the Untouchables accepted Joint Electorate with the Hindus. Mr. Gandhi claimed that India was a Hindu country. With perpetual majority assured, the Hindu leadership of the Congress Party set upon the task of denying all the faith and caste identities and their fair share in power.

In the states where the Muslims were in majority, Joint Electorate suited them better but they took a principled stand for the sake of the minorities. Separate Electorate and the Muslim majority states in the East and the West being grouped into regions were the two Muslim demands. If those had been accepted there would have no partition in 1947 and all the faiths and castes would have had their fair share in power. But that meant the Hindus would have got only 15% in contrast with the Muslims who were 25% of the population and the Bahujan (i.e. native majority who are Untouchables) would have been the largest group in the parliament. The Hindus preferred partition over accepting Separate Electorate to give fair share in power to all faiths and castes. The irony is they have the temerity to blame the Muslims and Mr. Jinnah for the partition and continue to do so. The fact is that the Hindu leaders of the Congress Party forced the partition by rejecting every fair formula for sharing power. After having tricked the Untouchables into accepting Joint Electorate with them, they hoped to rule over India in perpetuity.

The Seminar was addressed by Mr. V.T. Rajshekar, Editor of *Dalit Voice*, Bangalore,